

USHPA RISK ASSESSMENT WORKSHEET

Hang Gliding / Paragliding Site

The United States Hang Gliding & Paragliding Association • www.ushpa.aero • info@ushpa.aero

Flying Site Name:	Wolcott		
Site Location: (Closest City, State)	Wolcott, CO	Annual/ Last Assessment Revision Date:	15 Jan 2019
Primary Launch GPS Coords: (DD.DDDD, -DD.DDDD)	39.7004, -106.6338 Primary LZ GPS Coords: (DD.DDDD, -DD.DDDD) 39.7215, -106.6446		39.7215, -106.6446
Site Requirements: examples: H3, P3, H3 w/ CL	H2, P2, No Mini-wings		
Site Type: examples: Coastal Cliff, High Alt, Mt Thermal, Eastern Ramp	High Alt, Mt Thermal		
Site Guide Link: https://www.link.com	http://www.rmhpa.org/wolcott-site-guide/		
Site Guide Review Login: (if protected)	Site Guide Review Password: (if protected)		
Chapter #:	21		
Chapter/Club Name:	Rocky Mountain Hang Gliding and Paragliding Association		
Name of Safety Coordinator:	Ed Williams, Tavo Gutierrez, Ben DeVoti		
Name of Site Coordinator: (for chapter)	Greg Kelley		

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For Risk Management Information & Process Instructions see: START HERE: USHPA RISK MANAGEMENT PROGRAM

Quick Risk Management Plan Steps outline:

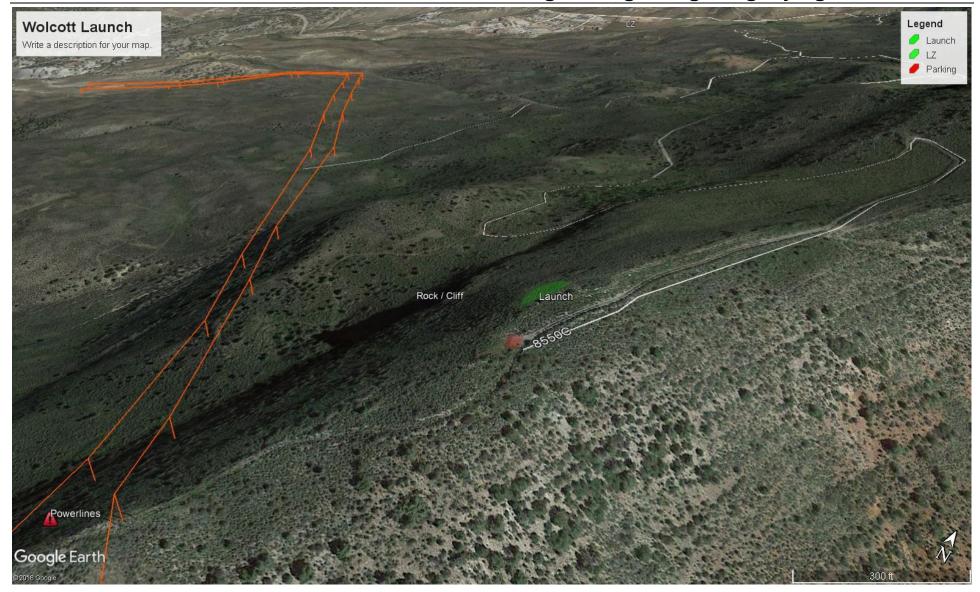
- 1. Review the Chapter Risk Management Training Videos & Training Materials on http://ushpa.vizigy.com
- 2. Create / Update Chapter Managed Sites and Site Locations List Table
 - a. Update Chapter Managed Site Additional Insured Landowner Table and associate to Site Locations
- 3. Create Site Maps to be used in this assessment and Site Guides. Site Maps to include the setup, launch, teardown and landing areas, including use zones & measurements (to compare to guidelines) and include in Risk Assessment & Site Guide document.
- 4. **Risk Assessment and Mitigation** sections of Worksheet: Identify all possible risks. Evaluate from the perspective of spectators, visiting pilots, inexperienced and experienced pilots. Analyze all risks and determine the vulnerabilities.
 - a. Note significant risks under Risk Detail and Risk Assessment.
 - b. For each risk noted, determine steps, actions, signs if necessary to mitigate the risk and document under "Risk Mitigation."
- 5. **Create Risk Mitigation Plans** in section of this worksheet for actions to be implemented if not in place and follow-through on any actions or other mitigation activities identified in your Risk Assessments and Action Plan, such as signage or preventative measures.
- 6. Create / Update Site Guide and update rules/regulations/protocols /site guides to be reflective of risks.
- 7. Communication
 - a. Publish your Site Guide and any rules/regulations/protocol guides, so all users of the flying site are aware of them
 - b. Publish your Risk Management Plan to be available to Chapter Members
- 8. Accident Investigations and feedback findings to your Risk Assessment Worksheet & Site Guide if actions are required
- 9. Submission Upload during Chapter Application/ Renewal (Annually) or send directly to USHPA or RRRG contact for updates after upload

Site Maps and Use Zones:



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(000 - Flying Site Name) Wolcott Review/ Revision Date 15 Jan 2			
Risk Identification (Examples – Feel free to identify your own!)	Risk Detail & Risk Assessment	Risk Mitigation	Sign Off
Road or Trail Access What type of road access is there (4WD, paved, public, etc.)? What type of trails are used to access site features? Are roads and trails used to access the site secured using gates or locks? Should they be? Does access to roads/trails need to be restricted or monitored? Are there potential conflicts between pedestrians and vehicles (pilots or spectators)? How do emergency vehicles access site areas? Is signage needed? Have there been any incidents or accidents involving vehicles at this site? Vehicle Parking Area	4-wheel drive road access through locked gate to access launch.	RMHPA with support and funding from the Foundation for Free Flight (FFF) is having road improvements made that will make the launch more accessible and help ensure future access. Thanks to the FFF. Do not block the road. This section will be updated when the road work is completed.	
 Is there a designated parking area for vehicles? What is the clearance between vehicles and: Setup? Are gliders in setup area secured? Launch? Landing area? Teardown area? Are gliders in teardown secured? → If any clearance is less than 50 feet, mitigation should be described Are tie-downs needed? Is signage needed? Have there been any incidents or accidents involving vehicles in the parking area at this site? 			
 Spectator Areas What is the clearance between spectators and: Setup? Are gliders in setup area secured? Launch? 		Respectful and thoughtful communication between pilots and spectators.	

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 Landing area? Teardown area? Are gliders in teardown secured? → If any clearance is less than 50 feet, mitigation should be described Are tie-downs needed? Are spectators allowed in areas with gliders without an escort? Should they be? How are spectator limitations communicated and enforced? Are barriers needed? Is signage needed? Have there been any incidents or accidents involving spectators at this site? 		
Potential Obstacles • Which potential obstacles are present at the	Launch area obstacles: Trees, scrub and rocks below launch	Have site mentor do a walk-through with new pilots For returning pilots, walk full LZ and launch
site: o wires o towers o lake or river o ocean o forest or trees o large rocky areas o other What is the clearance between potential obstacles and: o launch? (50 feet) o landing area? (100 feet) o planned flight path? (75 feet) → If any clearance is less than noted distance, collision avoidance mitigation should be described Is the clearance sufficient? Are potential obstacles marked? Is signage needed? Have there been any incidents or accidents involving overhead obstacles at this site?	Landing area obstacles: Fences around LZ. Railroad, Interstate and River in proximity Clearances: Launch: rocks and oak brush: in proximity to launch powerlines > 200' more of a factor in flight LZ: Fences: > 100' Stream and Road: > 100' Clearances are sufficient, obstacles are obvious, no flight path obstacles.	areas. Before every flight, conduct a flight-plan review taking into account obstacles Steer clear of obstacles and be aware of the danger of object fixation. Understand density altitude and how it affects launch and landing characteristics (HA endorsement required). Do not fly alone.
Launch Areas	Clearance for take-off obstacles is > 50' and >40 degrees	Walk intended and backup takeoff paths. Site regulations are posted on the RMHPA
 What is the clearance around the take-off area: in front (for solo pilots)? (50 feet) 	Slip/trip/fall hazards are present due to native	Site Guide and communicated to pilots

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 in front (for tandem pilots)? (75 feet) behind? (30 feet) to the sides? (30 degrees) If any clearance is less than noted, collision avoidance mitigation (for obstacles or spectators) should be described Are there ground obstructions (trip/fall hazards)? Is the launch area clearly marked? Does it need to be? Are there appropriate/adequate tie-downs? Are the site regulations and launch requirements clearly communicated to all pilots and spectators? How? Are there launch assistant qualifications and equipment guidelines communicated? How? Are spectator areas delineated and communicated? How? Is signage needed? 	environment	during site walkthroughs and introductions. Cellular coverage is available. Launch is clearly marked and obvious. Emergency medical response is available from Edwards, CO.	
 Are there First Aid – First Responder resources? Have there been any incidents or accidents involving obstacles, obstructions, vehicles or people on launch at this site? 			
Landing Zones			
 What is the clearance around the landing area and: ground personnel vehicles structures active roads/trails spectators If any clearance is less than 50 feet, collision avoidance mitigation should be described Are there ground obstructions (trip/fall hazards)? Is the landing area clearly marked? Does it need to be? Are there appropriate/adequate tie-downs? Are the site regulations and landing requirements clearly communicated to all pilots 	Slip/trip/fall hazards are present due to native environment Landing zone has some mild slope in places with undulating terrain. Due to density altitude, approaches can go long.	Site regulations are posted on the RMHPA Site Guide and communicated to pilots during site walkthroughs and introductions. Cellular coverage is usually available. The LZ, and backup LZs, are not clearly marked, but obvious. Signage not allowed on USFS property. Emergency medical response is available from Edwards, CO. Understand density altitude and HA endorsement required.	

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 and spectators? How? Are spectator areas delineated and communicated? How? Are there guidelines regarding ground handling (kiting) in the LZ area? Are there appropriate wind indicators? Is signage needed? Are there First Aid – First Responder resources? Have there been any incidents or accidents involving obstacles, obstructions, vehicles or people in the landing area at this site? 			
 Other Activities in Area Is the site open to the general public? Do other activities occur in the same area? Such as: radio controlled (RC) aircraft model rocketry skeet shooting kite flying If any other activity occurs, mid-air mishap mitigation should be described Is signage needed? Have there been any incidents or accidents involving other activities at this site? 	General public cannot access the launch area, but there is plenty of space for pilots to keep clearance from spectators.	Pilots will communicate with spectators to keep them clear of launch area.	
FAA Recognition and Communication • Are there other flight operations in the area? • general aviation • commercial aviation • agricultural aviation → If any other flight operations occur in the area, interference mitigation should be described • Has the local FAA office been advised in writing of glider flight activities? • Are NOTAMs published for this site? • Are there conflicts with Terminal Controlled Flight areas (TCA)? • Are there potential conflicts with general aviation airports and landing patterns (non-	With the proximity to I70 there is possibility for VFR general aviation traffic. Sled rides should be low enough to avoid conflicts. Thermal flights above launch altitude could encounter general aviation traffic.		

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 controlled)? Are all tandem and towing operations in compliance with FAA rules and regulations? Have there been any incidents or accidents involving FAA non-compliance or other flight operations in the area of this site? 	
 Organized Events Does your Chapter have any organized events at this site? Such as: club meetings, picnics or parties fly-ins or demo days ACE events or sanctioned competitions public demonstrations Is there a Flight Safety Coordinator designated for all flying events? Are spectator areas and vehicle parking areas clearly defined, designated and enforced? Are recommended clearances between flight operations and spectator areas marked, maintained and enforced? Are tie-down systems available and in-use for organized events? Are flight simulators or other demonstration equipment under direct supervision at all times until disassembled? Are First Aid – First Responder resources on site and available? Have there been any incidents or accidents during organized Chapter-sponsored events? 	Organized events have not occurred nor, at the time of this submittal, are planned at this Site.
■ Do your Bylaws clearly define the responsibilities of the Safety officer (can be a Director, Coordinator, or other titles)? Such as: □ Risk Assessment and Risk Mitigation Plan □ Incident Reporting process and follow-up □ Oversight of Site-Event Management Plans □ Access to historical data for informing site guidelines and rules □ Authority to close a site due to hazardous conditions or situations	Yes, chapter bylaws included Safety Officer and Flight Director responsibilities, including reviewing and updating risk management plans, incident reporting, open access from pilots, site regulation changes and authority, and imposing flight restrictions. Yes. Documentation is maintained.

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 Authority to restrict flight operations of a single pilot if necessary to avoid potential accidents Does your Chapter have a copy of USHPA's Risk Management Plan Program with Appendix A, Recommended Operating Guidelines? Does your Chapter have appropriate documentation in place for: Risk Mitigation Plan Incident Reporting policy/procedure to close a site due to hazardous conditions or situations policy/procedure to restrict flight operations of a single pilot if necessary to avoid potential accidents 	The Chapter Secretary is planning to visit all Chapter managed sites this year to review and update Google Earth Pro LZ obstacle photos with inputs from the local site experts/coordinators. Photos are complete for this site but a visit will be made verify and check for additional obstacles.
 Information Communication Are flying site rules and guidelines clearly and appropriately communicated? This could be through one or more of the following: website 	Yes, site guidelines and process are communicated to the RMHPA membership via email, social media, and an updated website Site Guide.
 video signage on site paper hand-outs designated members (site administrator, sponsor, guide) 	In the chance spectators are present, pilots are encouraged to communicate with them on spectator safety hazards, where to view, and where to keep away from.
 other Are flying site parameters and protocol clearly and appropriately communicated (to spectators 	Site coordinator information will be included on the updated Site Guide.
 and pilots) through signage, physical markings, barriers, etc.? Is contact information for the chapter site coordinator available at the site? How can members and spectators provide input and suggestions to the site management team? 	Members and spectators are encouraged to contact any RMHPA officer with input or questions. Officer information is included in the RMHPA website.
 How is the Emergency Action Plan communicated? 	Ownership claim has not been initiated
 Have efforts been made to claim ownership of internet information with pointers back to your Chapter as the primary information source that takes precedence if on Google Maps, 	The Wolcott Site Guide is being updated and rewritten to more clearly communicate relevant information.

Paragliding Map, Paragliding Earth, or other online site guides?		
Experience & Skills required to fly the site safely	H2/P2/M2 required w/ High Altitude and Turbulence endorsements	The Site is insured, therefore USHPA membership and appropriate ratings are required.
 List the pilot skill sets required to fly the site safely. Does the site require a specific pilot proficiency rating / special skills? Cliff, ramp 		Site ratings do reflect the pilot requirements during morning and evening flights and/or
 Is USHPA membership & ratings required to fly at this site? 		when thermic conditions and environmental hazards are not present. For mid-day conditions, H3/P3/M3 or higher, is recommended.
 Each site should have recommended or required USHPA ratings Do the site ratings reflect the launch and landing 		
 Do the site ratings reflect the launch and landing zone requirements? Why did Site receive the rating? (Is the site a Green Circle run or a triple Black Diamond and 		USHPA membership/rating is verified by email, in-person cards, and/or txt message verification to USHPA.
why it was rated that) • How are pilot rating/special skill requirements verified? Some possible methods: o sticker		Training and mentoring do occur at the Site.
 text message (719-387-4571) website (ushpa.org/m/#####) PDF USHPA or Chapter Member card designated members (site admin, sponsor) 		
 How is site access limited to only those pilots with a verified appropriate rating/special skills? all members designated members (site administrator, 		
sponsor, guide) o other		
 How does the chapter encourage and enable appropriate pilot experience for flying at this site? Does training take place at the site? If so, are USHPA training guidelines followed? 		
Emergency Action Plan		
 Is the site Emergency Action Plan documented and communicated? Example methods: website 	An EAP will be published on the website and briefed annually at a Chapter Meeting.	Develop plan and publish to website and brief annually at a Chapter Meeting.

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 signage on site (launch and LZ) paper hand-outs designated members Is there a documented protocol for filing incident reports? Have local emergency responders been notified of flying site location and methods of access? What first responder resources are available onsite? Some possible options: first aid kit direct phone numbers of emergency services landline telephone (e.g., pay phone) no-fly tarp/flag Does the chapter sponsor First Aid and CPR training for members? How often? Have there been any incidents or accidents at this site using your Emergency Action Plan? 		
Tandem Flying	No commercial tandems that we are aware of.	
 How is compliance with the USHPA FAA Tandem Exemption monitored and enforced? Are all participants issued a 30-day student membership, or confirmed to possess a current USHPA membership? What is the clearance around the take-off area: in front (for tandem pilots)? (75 feet) behind? (30 feet) to the sides? (30 degrees) If any clearance is less than noted, collision avoidance mitigation (for obstacles or spectators) should be described Have there been any incidents or accidents involving tandems at this site? 		
Towing	N/A	
 If towing operations occur at the site, indicate all types: aircraft boat scooter static line truck 		

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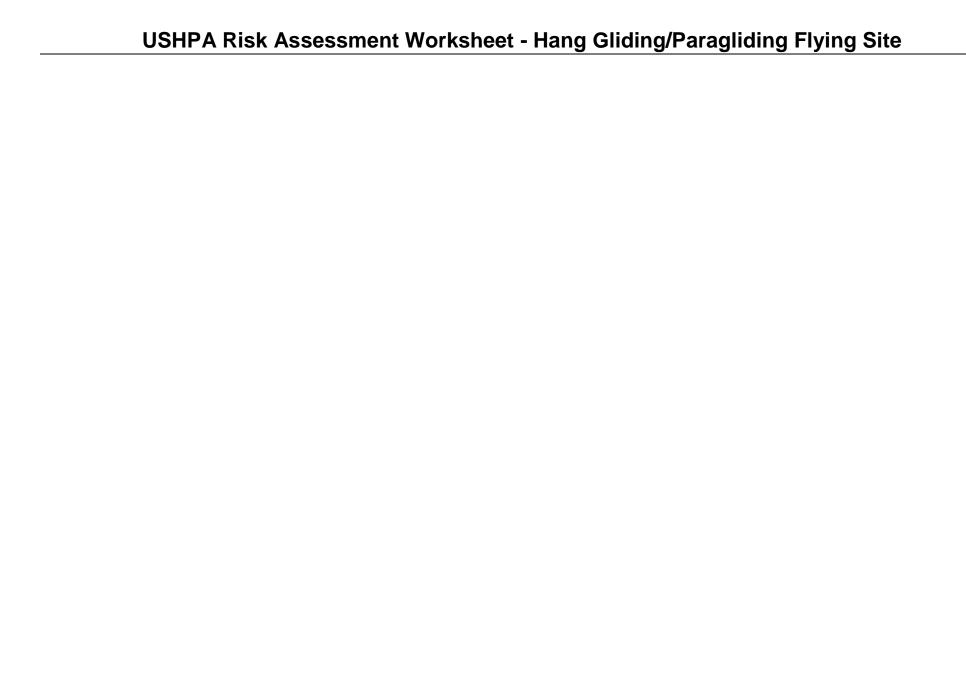
 winch other List each towing vehicle used (Year, Manufacturer, Make, Model, Owner) Does every tow operator have the relevant USHPA towing appointments? Is there a written schedule for maintenance of all towing equipment and associated line and hardware? Does the Chapter verify that the towing equipment maintenance is up-to-date? Are there towing-specific risks at this site? For example: fuel storage equipment maintenance licensing of operation site access Is the clearance around the towing area sufficient: in front? behind? to the sides? overhead? For aero-towing operations: How is compliance with the USHPA FAA Towing Exemption monitored and enforced at the site? Have there been any incidents or accidents involving towing at this site? 		
 Glider Tie Down Systems Are glider tie-down systems needed at this site (in either the setup or teardown areas)? Possible reasons to require: dust devils gusty winds insufficient clearance from vehicles insufficient clearance from spectators If tie-downs are available, how are they communicated to pilots? If tie-downs are available, how are pilots encouraged to make use of them? 	Pilots will provide their own or generally not neededlocked gate to launch.	

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 Have there been any incidents or accidents involving loose gliders at this site? 			
Environment & Other Risk Considerations What are the Minimum & Maximum allowed winds and maximum gust factor for the site? Explanations should be included if these numbers are high for the industry. Are there any other risks or hazards associated with this site or XC from this site? For example: man-made risks natural hazards environmental risks external events/forces weather conditions known venturi & rotor zones potential risks of impact vulnerability Time of year and time of day hazards Other risks typically included in site briefings Are there any possible risks due to local response? Are there preventative measures that can be implemented immediately? Have there been any incidents or accidents in the past at this site? If so, what actions, systems, communications, etc. could have mitigated those outcomes? Have there been any incidents or accidents in the past Year that warrant hazard updates to the Site Guide? List any facilities owned by the chapter at this site (such as clubhouse, storage shed, wind sock tower, launch ramp, towing equipment)	There are no minimum wind speed nor gust factors for the Site. Maximum winds are commensurate with ratings required for this site: H2/P2/M2 and H3/P3/M3 for mid-day conditions. Mountainous weather is the primary flight-related hazard associated with this Site, and includes: Wind velocity Turbulence Compression and venturi effects Thermic conditions Thunderstorm development Gust fronts Quickly changing conditions	Weather-related risk mitigation tactics include: Operating with rating limitations Site mentorships and site walkthroughs Understanding, reviewing, or being trained/mentored in wind judgement and compression effects, topographic and terrain-induced amplification of weather, thermal knowledge and skills to deal with high altitude thermic conditions and how to recognize ramping, wind shear knowledge and forecast review, knowing where nearby wind talkers are located, understanding thunderstorm lifecycle and recognizing hazardous conditions, having the flight skills to manage your aircraft including turbulence techniques and how to descend and land quickly when conditions build, recognizing changing conditions and landing quickly.	

Mini / Speed Wing Provisions & Associated risks	Because of the glide ratio required, mini wing flying is not recommended at Wolcott.		
 Are Mini/ Speed Wings flown at your site? Do you have Mini/ Speed Wing provisions in your site protocols? Provisions or Restrictions to consider: Required Glide Ratio from each Launch to each LZ Quantifiable terrain clearance limits to experience level. Acceptable flying conditions in conjunction with terrain clearance protocols including acceptable times of day to the season. Restrictions on Low Acrobatic Flying / Low Barrel Rolls / Swooping Distances from other pilots, observers, vehicles, structures, and other obstacles or areas Are there any other Mini/ Speed Wing risks or hazards associated with this site? Have there been any Mini / Speed Wing incidents or accidents in the past Year that warrant hazard updates to the Site Guide? 			
 Annual Incidents & Accidents Review # of Incidents this past Year0 # of Accidents this past Year0 Has your Chapter Reviewed Accidents in this past year and prior years to determine if actions are required? 		We are constantly reviewing safety protocols and procedures and how best to communicate all of that to our member pilots. Accidents and incidents are briefed at Chapter Meetings (when possible by the pilots involved). Lessons learned and takeaways for the future are discussed. Summaries of these accident and incident debriefs are included in Meeting Minutes on the Forum. It is our constant effort to keep the mentorship environment high for new pilots.	

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Risk Mitigation Plan Activities - to be implemented/ work in process

Risk Mitigation Plan Activities	Responsible Coordinators	Project Start	Est. Completion
Update RMHPA site guide	Greg Kelley & Webmaster	ASAP	Complete
Secretary Site Visits	Scott Drinkard	Feb 2018	Aug 2019
Add EAP brief and plan to the Chapter Website	Jake Hildebrand	Feb 2018	Complete

Site Locations:

Attach & upload Chapter Managed Sites and Site Locations Table

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